

kills of the two animals can usually be distinguished by this, though a large forest leopard will sometimes commence to eat behind, between the buttocks, just as a tiger does—and presumably also the converse. However, the exceptions in either case seem to be rare.—EDS.]

## 2. THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE INDIAN LYNX

Is the Indian Lynx (*Caracal caracal*) disappearing from our forests? Would your readers kindly enlighten me through your journal when and where this animal has been seen during the last 3-4 years? This animal was seen by me in Hazaribagh National Park in Bihar in December 1957 and by Shri K. S. Sankhala, Divisional Forest Officer, Jaipur, in Sariska Game Sanctuary in Rajasthan on 31 October 1958. Two immature cubs were found in the Sariska Sanctuary. The cubs could not be kept alive and their carcasses were sent to the Zoological Survey of India for identification and preservation. Judging from the manner in which these cubs were abandoned by the parents it looks to me that the natural food of this animal is fast disappearing and therefore the mother not being capable of rearing the cubs abandoned them. They do not seem to have the habit of tigers and panthers of eating their cubs if food supply is difficult.

JAIPUR,  
RAJASTHAN,  
April 2, 1959.

N. N. SEN, I.F.S.,  
Chief Conservator of Forests.

## 3. THE VOICE OF THE CHEETAH OR HUNTING LEOPARD (*ACINONYX JUBATUS* ERXLEBEN)

At pages 25 and 26 of his most interesting and informative *Report on the Royal National Parks of Kenya 1957*, the Director, Mr. Mervyn Cowie, informs us as to the variety of vocal noises the cheetah can make:

'They purr when contented. The purr sounds like rattling a few stones in a tin and can be heard quite far away. The most noticeable sound, however, is a whistle or squeak when they are calling to each other. It sounds more like the whistle of a bird than any mammal, and unless one knows the sound well, it is difficult to believe that such a shrill sound could possibly be made by a Cheetah.'

In all the literature regarding the cheetah, and in the upwards of 280 books on shikar in India and the East, there is not, to the best of my belief, any mention of the vocal sounds made by the cheetah.